

**RESOLUTION NUMBER 355**

# ***2008 NCAA Wrestling Championship***

**WHEREAS**, wrestling is one of the world's oldest sports and has helped develop many generations of successful individuals through dedication, commitment and perseverance to the sport; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of St. Louis is honored to welcome people from the across the United States of America to enjoy their experience in our city; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of St. Louis is proud to join the college wrestling community in commemorating 50 years of African-American success on the mat; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1957, Simon Roberts from the University of Iowa became the first African-American NCAA Wrestling Champion. Since then, 45 other African-Americans have joined him at the top of the podium; and

**WHEREAS**, African-Americans have won national, world and Olympic wrestling medals and become successful coaches and officials; and

**WHEREAS**, wrestling ranks among the most successful individual sports in medals won by black athletes at NCAA Championships and in Olympic competition.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to recognize the Champions and All-Americans that are here today and salute the student-athletes and coaches who throughout the past century have inspired young African-Americans and paved the way for their success in life and we further direct the Clerk of this Board to spread a copy of this Resolution across the minutes of these proceedings and to prepare a commemorative copy to the end that it may be presented to our honoree at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

Introduced on the 17th day of March, 2008 by:

**Honorable Lewis E. Reed, President St. Louis City Board of Aldermen**  
**Honorable Bennice Jones-King, Alderwoman 21<sup>st</sup> Ward**

Adopted this the 17th day of March, 2008 as attested by:

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David W. Sweeney  
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

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Lewis E. Reed  
President, Board of Aldermen

